

Gothenburg wrestlers face state-like competition

Written by Austin Benson
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In the toughest wrestling tournament Gothenburg grapplers will compete in this season other than the state tournament, the Swedes didn't represent themselves as well as head coach Tom Scott had hoped at the Valentine Invite last Saturday.

"Some of our wrestlers have shown rapid growth while others haven't seen much progression," Scott said.

With that said, the Valentine Invite played host to some of Nebraska's and South Dakota's top wrestlers in their respective class.

There were 14 different weight classes, Scott said, and in those classes a total of 57 wrestlers qualified for state last year.

Heading into the invite, Scott said he wanted the Swedes to focus on matches with district opponents. In five matchups between Gothenburg and those district foes the Swedes managed only one win.

However, Gothenburg as a team was missing some wrestlers and took only seven to Valentine.

Scott said Bryce Larson stood out and was one win away from placing but lost in the third round of the qualifying match.

"We had three wrestlers do well up there but four of our guys didn't wrestle to their potential."

After the second big tournament in a row and going into break, Scott said the team talked after the tourney and the guys are excited about opening up after break at the Ogallala Invite.

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“We had success there last year and we should see success again this year,” Scott said.

Leading the Swedes in Valentine were Skyler Kottwitz at 170 pounds and a 14-4 record and Larson with a 13-5 record at the 106-pound weight class.

INDIVIDUAL SWEDE RESULTS

106—Bryce Larson pinned Skyler Key, 1:43; pinned Clayton Glendy (Broken Bow), 2:58; lost 12-2 major decision to Trent Daro (David City); lost 7-4 to Hunter Peterson (Phillip)

126—Tyler Alvarez won 15-7 decision over Ty Bolton (Winner); was pinned by Hudson Pearman (Valentine), 5:00; won 7-5 decision over Pryce Pinney (Ainsworth); was pinned by Tony Meusch (David City), 3:00

132—Dirk Earll was pinned by Brian Messersmith (Cozad) 1:56; was pinned by Dustin Papa (David City) 3:00

138—Talbot Buchholz was pinned by Clay Trejo (Cozad), 0:58; was pinned by Kalan Zeilinger (David City), 1:00

145—Jayden Miller lost 15-0 technical fall to Martin Phillips (David City); won unopposed; lost 11-2 decision to Tyler Reitz (Chadron)

170—Skyler Kottwitz won unopposed; lost 8-2 decision to Elijah Timblin (Gering); won 14-5 decision over Tucker Tonniges (Ord); was pinned by Garrett Ulmer (Broken Bow), 0:45

182—Tyler Miller was pinned by Quinn Reimers (Pierre), 0:49; won unopposed; lost 6-4 decision to Jaret Matson (McCook)

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abenson@gothenburgtimes.com

308-537-3636